



SEND Newsletter

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Mrs F Wadsley, Headteacher

0115 915 0500 | [Email the office](#) | [Website](#)

Welcome to our SEND newsletter

Welcome to Our Lady's latest SEND newsletter, designed to share updates and information regarding special educational needs and disability, both at our school and in the community.

Should you require any further information, or if you would like an appointment to discuss your child, please contact the school office and I will be happy to help.

Mrs Thompson
SENCO

No Pens Allowed!

Our school community came together on the first day back after half term for our very first 'No Pens Day'!

Each class engaged in exciting learning opportunities designed to develop children's practical problem solving skills and to strengthen verbal communication skills, while giving our pencils a rest!



Reception investigating a crime scene in their role play



Class 2 enjoying making delicious fruit kebabs



Class 4 building amazing flying machines

MHST Update



We continue to prioritise mental health and wellbeing for our children through our partnership with the Mental Health Support Team. Mandy Lau, our allocated practitioner, will offer interventions on exam stress and transition to secondary school for our Class 6 children this half term.

SEND Frequently Asked Questions

How does the school use outside agencies and other professionals to support SEND children?

We are fortunate to have developed strong working relationships with outside agencies and professional bodies. Our school works collaboratively with such outside agencies to support children with SEND and their families.

Such agencies include Learning Support Team, Behaviour Support Team and Autism Team. Other services accessed by school include Community Nursing Team, Speech and Language Therapists and Occupational Therapists. Occasionally, members of such teams will visit school and observe one of our children, and they are always on hand to advise and support school staff.

We are a Mental Health Support Team School (MHST) and work closely with our allocated practitioner, Mandy Lau, to support the mental health and wellbeing of children and staff.

Enhanced Provision News

In the Enhanced Provision, our children have been very busy! We have been learning all about jungle animals and used the book 'Dear Zoo' as a basis for our work in English. There has also been a focus on materials and their properties, and the children have been learning nursery rhymes, along with signs and symbols that accompany the songs.



We continue to teach interventions in the Enhanced Provision and have expanded on both the range of interventions taught and the numbers of children using the EP at various times during the school day in recent weeks. Interventions include Sensory Circuits, Attention Autism, Music Interaction and Social Skills.



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Spring Community Activities

Parent/Carer Wellbeing Day

Please see below for details regarding a free of charge wellbeing day for parents of children with a SEND diagnosis, such as ASD, PSD or ADHD. A few hours of self-care for parents to put themselves first for once, courtesy of Nottingham City Council!



- Hand, foot and Head Massage
- Pebble Painting and Glazing
- Yoga for Beginners
- Gong Meditation

WHAT TO BRING:

- A yoga mat for the Gong session (or a blanket)
- Pillows & extra blankets for added comfort

The event takes place on 4th March 2025 10am – 2pm at St Barnabas Cathedral.

Free parking is available, alongside complementary tea, coffee and pastries!

Contact special.needs@nottinghamcity.gov.uk to book a place.



Planet Bounce SEND Sessions

Planet Bounce offer relaxed sessions for children who would benefit from a more calming, quieter atmosphere.

Sessions are offered on selected Sunday mornings 9am-10am and Wednesday evenings 5pm-6pm. The lighting and volume of music are adjusted and the sessions run with a significantly lower amount of participants.

Contact details to book:

Web: www.planetbounceinflatablepark.com

Telephone: 0115 9881 745



Free Amazon Vouchers for Parents of SEND children

Parents of SEND children are invited to attend a workshop funded by the NHS, taking place on 7th March at the University of Nottingham. The subject of the workshop is the journey from initial SEND concerns to a diagnosis and beyond. All parents who attend will receive an Amazon voucher. See the flyer below for further details and email debbie.bickley@nhs.net to reserve a place. The workshop is free of charge, but spaces are limited.

Autism/ADHD assessment pathway workshop

If your child is on the Autism/ADHD assessment pathway, or has been on the pathway in the past, we would like to hear from you.

We are holding a second workshop to hear from people with lived experience so we can make improvements for families waiting for an assessment. This will be held on Friday, 7 March (9.30am to 1pm) at the University of Nottingham. Attendees will receive an Amazon gift voucher.

Please email debbie.bickley@nhs.net to reserve your place – spaces are limited.

We want to hear from you



Relaxed Performances at the Nottingham Playhouse

The Nottingham Playhouse now perform relaxed sessions of some of their performances, ideal for children with SEND. Noise is reduced to a minimum, lighting is carefully adjusted, and 'chill out' spots are provided before and after each performance for those requiring a calming space.

Coming soon, especially for children....

CHILDREN'S THEATRE

Little Seeds Music presents

Tales From the Lighthouse

Written by Oliver Bishop

Thu 10 Apr

**NOTTINGHAM
PLAYHOUSE**

A final thought....

*We're All Different
But There's Something Kind Of Fantastic
About That, Isn't There?
Fantastic Mr Fox*